

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 SIL-01 LAB-06 EB-11

/145 W

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R 221526Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9655

INFO AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMCONSUL OPORTO UNN

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PO, CV, PINT

SUBJECT: CAPE VERDIAN POLITICAL GROUPS FORM

SUMMARY: ORGANIZATION CALLING ITSELF DEMOCRATIC ACTION
GROUP OF CAPE VERDE (GADC) FORMED FROM AMONG CAPE
VERDIAN IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY IN LISBON MAY 12 TO CAMPAIGN
FOR IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE OF CAPE VERDE. GROUP
SO FAR UNDECIDED ON QUESTION WHETHER OR NOT CAPE VERDE SHOULD LINK UP
WITH GUINEA BISSAU AFTER INDEPENDENCE. GROUPS FOR AND
AGAINST IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE FOR ISLANDS HAVE ALSO
FORMED IN CAPE VERDE. SERIOUS STREET CLASH RESULTING
IN EIGHT WOUNDED REPORTED IN CAPE VERDIAN CITY PRAIA, AND FIRST
STRIKE IN THAT CITY IN 50 YEARS HAS OCCURRED. END SUMMARY.

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1. IN AFTERMATH OF APRIL 25 COUP IN PORTUGAL, A GROUP

OF ABOUT 100 CAPE VERDIANS RESIDENT IN THE METROPOLE AND CALLING THEMSELVES GRUPO DE ACCAO DEMOCRATICA DE CABO VERDE (G.A.D.C.), FORMED (MAY 12) TO PROMOTE "INTENSIVE POLITICIZATION OF CAPE VERDIAN PEOPLE." GADC IS THE ONLY POLITICAL GROUP TO DATE ORGANIZED AMONG THE 45-50,000 CAPE VERDIANS IN EUROPEAN PORTUGAL. GROUP IS COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF MIDDLE-CLASS CAPE VERDIAN PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS WHO ALSO MEMBERS OF LOCAL (NON-POLITICAL) CAPE VERDIAN ASSOCIATION (CASA DE CABO VERDE). FEW IF ANY CAPE VERDIAN WORKERS HERE HAVE JOINED WITH GROUP, WHICH PROCLAIMS SUPPORT FOR ALL PORTUGUESE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS "IN THEIR ANTI-COLONIALIST, ANTI-IMPERIALIST STRUGGLES". GADC'S SIX -MAN SECRETARIAT IS LED BY HEAD OF CASA DE CABO VERDE, DR. ANTONIO MANUEL CALDEIRA MARQUES. (MARQUES IS 35-YEAR OLD LAWYER WHO PERSONALLY SYMPATHETIC TO GOALS OF PAIGC, AND WHO KNEW AMILCAR CABRAL WHEN CABRAL A STUDENT IN LISBON.)

2. SPECIFIC GADC DEMANDS TO DATE INCLUDE IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE FOR CAPE VERDE, SAO TOME, PRINCIPE, ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, AND IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION OF "STATE OF GUINEA-BISSAU". GROUP'S GOALS ARE TO POLITICIZE CAPE VERDIANS IN METROPOLE, FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY, NEUTRALIZE "FASCISTS" ON ALL FRONTS, AND ESTABLISH COMMISSIONS IN ALL LOCATITIES WHERE CAPE VERDIANS EXIST. GADC UNABLE AGREE SO FAR ON MORE SPECIFIC POLITICAL GOALS AND CONCRETE PLANS OF ACTION DUE DIVERGENT IDEOLOGICAL POINTS OF VIEW OF MEMBERS. BASIC CLEAVAGES HAVE ARISEN IN ORGANIZATION OVER IDEOLOGICAL FOCUS (MARXIST OR NON-MARXIST), OVER "CLASS CREDENTIALS" OF ITS NEW LEADERS, AND OVER MORE BASIC QUESTION OF WHETHER AN INDEPENDENT CAPE VERDE COULD BECOME ECONOMICALLY VIABLE NOW. ANOTHER POINT OF DIVISION IS OVER WHETHER OR NOT AFTER INDEPENDENCE CAPE VERDE SHOULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH GUINEA BISSAU. OLDER CAPE VERDIANS DOUBT WHETHER THE ISLANDS COULD GO IT ALONE WITHOUT MASSIVE OUTSIDE HELP. YOUNGER ELEMENTS, INCLUDING MARQUES, FEEL FISHING, TOURISM, SALT, AND "STRATEGIC POSITION OF ISLANDS" CAN BRING IN SUFFICIENT REVENUE TO FINANCE INDPENDENCE, AND FAVOR CLOSE TIES WITH GUINEA BISSAU AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

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3. CALDIRA MARQUES HAS TOLD EMBOFF THAT POLITICAL STIRRINGS ARE UNDER WAY IN CAPE VERDE. GROUPS HAVE FORMED THERE IN LAST WEEK TO "POLITICIZE" POPULATION AND DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR FUTURE OF ISLANDS. PRO-PAIGC GROUP HELD MEETING MAY 11 IN PRAIA TO DISCUSS STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION PAIGC, AND DEBATE ECONOMIC POSSIBILITIES FOR INDEPENDENT CAPE VERDE. ALSO COVERED WAS QUESTION

OF WHETHER NON-CAPE VERDIANS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN AN INDEPENDENT CAPE VERDE. NO DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE ON THESE MEETINGS. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER OR NOT THIS PRO-FAIGC GROUP IS CAMPAIGNING FOR AN INDEPENDENT CAPE VERDE SEPARATE FROM GUINEA-BISSAU, OR A UNION OF THE TWO STATES AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

4. AT LEAST ONE ANTI-PAIGC GROUP OPPOSED TO IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE FOR ISLANDS IS ALSO ACTIVE IN CAPE VERDE. MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP PEACEFULLY DEMONSTRATED IN PRAIA IN FAVOR CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH PORTUGAL ON MAY 11. HOWEVER A LUSITANIA NEWS AGENCY REPORT OF MAY 20 REPORTS SERIOUS STREET CLASH ON MAY 19 IN PRAIA, WHICH REQUIRED MILITARY INTERVENTION TO QUELL. CAUSE OF MELEE, IN WHICH 8 PERSONS WOUNDED (TWO SERIOUSLY) BY MACHINEGUN FIRE OF POLICE ATTEMPTING DISPERSE CROWD, NOT REVEALED NOR IDENTITY OF GROUPS OR PERSONS INVOLVED. LOCAL NATIONAL SALVATION JUNTA REPRESENTATIVE HAS APPEALED FOR CALM, AND WARNED AGAINST FUTURE PROVOCATIONS BY "REACTIONARIES". MEANWHILE PRAIA'S BUS DRIVERS AND TICKET COLLECTORS STAGED CITY'S FIRST STRIKE IN FIFTY YEARS. STRIKE SUCCESSFUL WITH COLLECTORS RECEIVING 100 PCT WAGE INCREASE TO ABOUT \$2 PER DAY, AND DRIVERS 50 PCT INCREASE.

COMMENT

5. WHILE THE GADC ONLY REPRESENTS A MINISCULE PORTION OF TOTAL CAPE VERDIAN IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY OUTSIDE ISLANDS (ABOUT 750,000), GADC HAS ADVANTAGE OF BEING ASSOCIATED WITH CASA DE CABO VERDE, THE RESPECTED (AND ONLY) ESTABLISHED ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING CAPE VERDIANS IN METROPOLE. GROUP IS VOCAL, BUT IT STILL TOO SOON TO ASSESS ITS POLITICAL INFLUENCE OR STAND IT WILL TAKE ON QUESTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF FUTURE RELATIONS WITH GUINEA BISSAU.

6. VIOLENCE IN CAPE VERDE WILL CLEARLY NOT BE TOLERATED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES. HOWEVER, AS IN METROPOLE, INDIGENOUS POLITICAL GROUPS WILL PRESUMABLY BE ALLOWED TO PROSELYTIZE PEACEFULLY WITHOUT OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE. NEW CIVIL GOVERNOR (MAJOR JOSE ALBERTO LOUREIRO SANTOS) MADE IT CLEAR ON ASSUMING DUTIES MAY 18 THAT POPULACE MUST NOW ACCELERATE DISCUSSION IN ORDER TO CHOOSE ITS OWN FUTURE "WITHIN MULTIPLE POSSIBILITIES OPEN TO IT". ISLANDS WILL PROBABLY BE ASKED TO CHOOSE IN NEAR FUTURE WHETHER OR NOT THEY WANT TO REMAIN WITH PORTUGAL. SCOTT

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